

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07421 061026Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /095 W

-----067903 061049Z /17

R 061018Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0674

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 07421

ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, ILO, BE

SUBJECT: ILO - THE CSC CONTEMPLATES AN 11TH HOUR SALVAGE  
OPERATION

REF: BRUSSELS 6881

SUMMARY: BELGIUM'S CHRISTIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (CSC)  
DECLARES RECENT ILO CONFERENCE POORLY SERVED WORKER'S  
INTERESTS AND ANNOUNCES AN EFFORT THROUGH WCL AND ETUC  
TO SAVE THE ORGANIZATION. CSC PRESIDENT HOUTHUYS  
TELLS US THAT HIS INITIATIVE DERIVES FROM HIS BELIEF  
THAT U.S. WILL PROBABLY QUIT ILO AND MANY EUROPEAN COUN-  
TRIES WOULD FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 07421 061026Z

1. A JUNE 29 STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE BUREAU OF THE  
BELGIAN CONFEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONS (CSC)  
DECLARED THAT THE RECENT ILO CONFERENCE AT GENEVA  
HAD POORLY SERVED THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS OF THE  
WORLD. THE BUREAU REGRETTED THAT SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
PROGRESS - PARTICULARLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES - HAD

THEREBY BEEN HAMPERED. IT NOTED THAT THE ABSENCE OF  
TRIPARTITISM AND THE ACTION OF POLITICAL BLOCS MENACED  
THE EXISTENCE OF THE ONLY WORLD BODY WHERE WORKERS HAVE  
AN EFFECTIVE VOICE. THE STATEMENT ENDED WITH THE  
FOLLOWING SENTENCE: "THE CSC WILL UNDERTAKE THROUGH  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION BODIES - AND PARTICULARLY  
THROUGH THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR AND THE  
EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS - EFFORTS WHICH WILL PERMIT  
THE ILO TO PURSUE ITS ACTIVITIES."

2. COMMENTING ON THIS FINAL SENTENCE, CSC PRESIDENT JEF  
HOUTHUYS TOLD THE USEC AND EMBASSY LABOR ATTACHES THAT  
HE VERY MUCH FEARS THAT THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO  
WITHDRAW FROM THE ILO - AND THAT IT WILL BE FOLLOWED  
BY MANY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. HOUTHUYS FEELS THAT IT IS  
ESSENTIAL THAT THE ORGANIZATION BE SAVED. HE BELIEVES  
THAT ANY U.S. INCLINATION TOWARDS WITHDRAWAL WILL ONLY BE  
STRENGTHENED BY A PASSIVE ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF ITS  
FRIENDS. HE IS THEREFORE URGING THE WCL, THE ETUC AND  
THE ICFTU TO INITIATE A "WORKERS LOBBY" WITH ARAB,  
THIRD WORLD AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, WARNING OF THE  
SERIOUSNESS OF THE THREAT TO THE ORGANIZATION AND URGING  
THEM TO ALTER THEIR POSITIONS.

3. COMMENT: HOUTHUYS REALIZES THAT THE HOUR IS LATE.  
BUT HE IS DETERMINED ON A TRY TO FORESTALL OUR WITHDRAWAL  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 07421 061026Z

AND KEEP ILO ALIVE. CHAMBERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BRUSSE07421  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770239-0396  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770789/aaaaczlr.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f0c4b370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BRUSSELS 6881  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1956960  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ILO - THE CSC CONTEMPLATES AN 11TH HOUR SALVAGE OPERATION  
**TAGS:** PORG, BE, ILO, CSC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f0c4b370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009